

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 SS-15 NSC-05

SP-02 SAM-01 FCSC-01 ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 L-02 H-02

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O 071454Z MAY 75 ZFF4

FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3153

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUDAPEST 1324

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, HU

SUBJ: HUNGARIAN INSTALLMENT ON 1975 CLAIMS AGREEMENT

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED NOTE DATED MAY 2 FROM MFA REPLYING TO OUR NOTE OF MARCH 28 TRANSMITTING U.S. OFFICIAL STATISTICS REGARDING HUNGARY'S 1974 EXPORTS TO U.S. FOR CLAIMS AGREEMENT ASSESSMENT PURPOSES. BODY OF MFA NOTE STATES:

"THE F.O.B. VALUE OF DOLLAR IMPORTS INTO THE U.S. FROM HUNGARY, AS TAKEN FROM THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (THAT IS, FT 990 'U.S. FOREIGN TRADE, HIGHLIGHTS OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS', DECEMBER 1974) EXCEEDS BY SOME 50 MILLION DOLLARS THE VALUE APPEARING IN THE OFFICIAL HUNGARIAN STATISTICAL PUBLICATION. THE HUNGARIAN DATA ARE TO BE FOUND IN NO. 1/1975 OF THE PUBLICATION ENTITLED: 'KOZPONTI STATISZTIKAI HIVATAL, STATISZTIKAI HAVI KOZLEMENYEK' (MONTHLY BULLETIN OF STATISTICS OF THE HUNGARIAN CENTRAL STATISTICAL OFFICE). THE SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE NECESSITATES A THOROUGH EXAMINATION OF THE DATA COMPILED. THE DIFFERENCE IS ADMITTEDLY DUE TO THE INCLUSION OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS INTO THE U.S. OF GOLD COINS MINTED IN HUNGARY WHICH COINS, HOWEVER, HAVE NEVER

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CONSTITUTED HUNGARIAN PROPERTY AND CANNOT, THEREFORE,

BE QUALIFIED AS HUNGARIAN SALES.

"IN CONNECTION WITH ARTICLE 4 OF THE AGREEMENT ON THE SETTLEMENT OF CLAIMS CONCLUDED IN WASHINGTON ON THE 6TH OF MARCH 1973, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE DIFFERENCE SHOULD BE CLARIFIED THE SOONEST POSSIBLE. THEREFORE, THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC REQUESTS THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO PLACE THE DATA ON THE COMMODITY PATTERN OF IMPORTS FROM HUNGARY DURING 1974 AND STATED TO BE 75.4 MILLION DOLLARS AT THE DISPOSAL OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC (POSSIBLY ACCORDING TO THE STANDARD INTERNATIONAL TRADE CLASSIFICATION AND DOWN TO TWO DIGITS (DIVISIO)).

"IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE THE NECESSARY CLARIFICATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AN URGENT REPLY TO THIS NOTE WOULD BE APPRECIATED."

2. MFA STATEMENT CONTAINED IN PARA 1 OF ITS NOTE THAT GOLD COINS MINTED IN HUNGARY AND IMPORTED INTO U.S. HAVE "NEVER CONSTITUTED HUNGARIAN PROPERTY AND THEREFORE CANNOT BE CLARIFIED AS HUNGARIAN SALES" CONSTITUTES FIRST OFFICIAL AND FORMAL INDICATION WE HAVE HAD FROM MFA THAT GO FREJECTS INCLUSION OF GOLD COINS EXPORTS TO U.S. FOR CLAIMS AGREEMENT ASSESSMENT PURPOSEFYM&

3. ACTION REQUESTED: UNLESS INSTRUCTED TO CONTRARY, WE PLAN, IN RESPONSE TO MINISTRY'S REQUEST, TO FORWARD TO GOH DEPT OF COMMERCE DATA RE HUNGARIAN EXPORTS TO U.S. BY NOON MAY 8 BUDAPEST TIME.
MCAULIFFE

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